



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
COOS BAY DISTRICT OFFICE
1300 AIRPORT LANE
NORTH BEND, OREGON 97459-2000

NORTH BEND, OREGON

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI) **for** **Sandy-Remote Analysis Area** **EA No. OR128-96-21**

Alternative I is the No Action alternative. Alternative II, Proposed Action, includes 628 acres of regeneration harvest, 133 acres of commercial thinning, and 6 acres of red alder conversion, all in the General Forest Management Area (GFMA). This alternative would produce approximately 3 1,500 thousand board feet of timber. Planned harvest systems include ground-based, skyline, and helicopter yarding. The proposed projects would include the construction of 4 miles of road to be decommissioned or fully decommissioned, 30.3 miles of road renovation, and .9 miles of road improvement. Road closure recommendations would close 8.4 miles of existing roads. This alternative would adjust Riparian Reserve boundaries on intermittent streams adjacent to (or included within) the proposed units. The adjustments meet the Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.

Alternative III, Full Interim Riparian Reserves, includes harvesting 633 acres of regeneration harvest, 128 acres of commercial thinning, and 6 acres of red alder conversion, all in the GFMA. This alternative would produce approximately 3 1,500 thousand board feet of timber. Planned harvest systems include ground-based, skyline, and helicopter yarding. Road construction, renovation, improvement, and road closures are the same as Alternative II. This alternative retains the full interim Riparian Reserve widths.

The proposed projects could be accomplished by multiple timber sales contracts expected to be sold in fiscal years 1997, 1998, or 1999.

The alternatives and their design features are described in the attached Sandy-Remote Analysis Area Environmental Assessment (EA), EA No. OR 128-96-21.


The attached EA is tiered to the *Final - Coos Bay District Proposed Resource Management Plan and EIS*, (FRMP, BLM, 1994), which is in conformance with the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for the Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* and its Record of Decision (ROD), (Northwest Forest Plan, Interagency, 1994).

Formal consultation under Section 7(A)(4) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 [16 U.S.C. 1563 (a)(2) and (a)(4) as amended] was completed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where it was determined that the action alternatives would not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species and were in compliance with the Act.

The estimated environmental effects contained in this EA are based on research, professional judgement and experience of the Interdisciplinary Team. No significant adverse impacts are expected on (1) Threatened or Endangered Species, (2) Floodplains or Wetlands/Riparian zones, (3) Wilderness Values, (4) Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, (5) Cultural Resources, (6) Prime or Unique Farmland, (7) Wild and Scenic Rivers, (8) Air Quality, (9) Native American Religious Concerns, (10) Hazardous Materials/Solid Waste, (11) Water Quality, (12) Sensitive Plants and Noxious Weeds or, (13) Survey and Manage Species.

DETERMINATION

On the basis of information contained in the Sandy-Remote Analysis Area EA, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that none of the alternatives constitute a major Federal action affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, a new EIS or supplement to the existing FRMP-EIS is unnecessary and will not be prepared for this analysis area.



NEAL R. MIDDLEBROOK
Myrtlewood Area Manager
Coos Bay District



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